

Filed March 29, 2004

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REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the subject application be preliminarily amended as provided in the foregoing amendment prior to calculation of the filing fees. Applicants also respectfully request the Examiner to consider the foregoing amended claims.

The specification was amended to rectify obvious typographical, punctuation, and grammatical errors.

The claims were amended to cancel subject matter which was pursued in the copending parent application (U.S.S.N.: 09/719,608) and to comply with 37 CFR 1.75(c) rules regarding multiple dependent claim format. Thus, after amendment claims 3-7, and 10-14 are pending in the instant application.

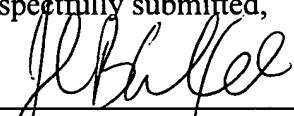
A certified copy of the priority document, Japanese patent, 11-293724/1999 was provided in connection with the parent application (U.S.S.N. 10/110,945).

Although it is not believed that any additional fees are needed to consider this submission, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge our deposit account no. 04-1105 should any fee be deemed necessary.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in a condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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